Before You Vaccinate Adults, Consider Their "H-A-L-O"!

What is H-A-L-O? It's an easy-to-use chart to help you make an *initial* decision about vaccinating a patient based on four factors — the patient's **Health, Age, Lifestyle, and Occupation**. You can give certain vaccines to all adults without considering other factors (e.g., annual influenza), while a few vaccines (e.g., RSV, MenB) are not routine but may be given to patients in certain age groups based on shared clinical decision-making (SCDM) between you and your patient.

Not all patients who mention one or more **H-A-L-O** factors will need to be vaccinated. Before you make a *definitive* decision about vaccinating your patient, you should refer to the more detailed information found in the complete vaccine recommendations of the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/index.html.

How do I use H-A-L-O?

Though some H-A-L-O factors can be easily determined (e.g., age, pregnancy), you will need to ask your patient about others. Once you determine which of the factors apply, scan down each column of the chart to see which vaccinations are possibly indicated.

H-A-L-O checklist of factors that indicate a possible need for adult vaccination

Vaccine	H Health Factors									A Age Factors	L Lifestyle Factors							O Occupational or Other Factors				
	During pregnancy	Certain chronic diseases	Immunosuppressed (including HIV infection)	History of sexually transmitted diseases	Asplenia	Cochlear implant candidate/recipient	Organ transplant (for stem cell transplant, see ACIP's Best Practices Guidelines for Immunization)	Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) leak	Alcoholism		Men who have sex with men	Not in a long-term, mutually monogamous relationship	User of injecting or non-injecting drugs	Homelessness	International traveler	Close contact of international adoptee	Tobacco smoking	College students	Healthcare worker	Certain lab workers	People who live or work in an area of an outbreak	Adults in institutional settings (e.g., long-term care, correctional)
COVID-19	Routine for all adults, including during pregnancy. Recommendations may vary by age, and immunocompromised status ····►																					
HepA		✔	✔							Anyone of any age who wants to be protected	✔		✔	✔	✔	✔				✔	✔	
HepB		✔	✔	✔						Routine through 59 yrs and based on risk factors for 60+; may give to anyone 60+	✔	✔	✔		✔				✔			✔
Hib		✔			✔																	
HPV										Routine through 26 yrs; based on SCDM* for 27–45 yrs												
IPV															✔					✔		
Influenza	Annual vaccination is recommended for all adults ····►																					
Meningococcal ACWY		✔	✔		✔										✔			✔		✔	✔	
Meningococcal B		✔			✔					Based on SCDM* for 16–23 yrs										✔	✔	
MMR			†							Routine 1 dose if born after 1956; 2nd dose for some					✔			✔	✔		✔	
PCV20 or PCV15		✔	✔		✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	Routine for 65+ yrs; based on risk factors for 19–64 yrs							✔					
PPSV23	PPSV23 only recommended after an adult with an indication for PCV (see row above) has received PCV13 or PCV15; PPSV23 not needed after an adult receives PCV20.																					
RSV										Adults age 60+ yrs based on SCDM*												
Tdap/Td	Tdap/Td boosters every 10 years for all adults; pregnant women should receive Tdap during each pregnancy (gestational weeks 27–36) ····►																					
Varicella‡	Completion of a 2-dose series for non-pregnant adults without evidence of immunity to varicella (see immunization schedule for details of acceptable evidence of immunity) ····►																					
Zoster		✔	✔				✔			Routine for 50+ yrs; for 19–49 yrs who are immunocompromised												

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FOR PROFESSIONALS www.immunize.org / **FOR THE PUBLIC** www.vaccineinformation.org

www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3070.pdf
Item #P3070 (9/18/2023)

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NOTES

* = SCDM (Shared Clinical Decision-Making): See ACIP recommendations on considerations for SCDM for HPV for adults 27–45 years, for MenB for 16–23 years., and for RSV vaccine for 60 years and older.

† = Vaccination may be indicated depending on degree of immunosuppression.

‡ = Varicella is contraindicated in people who are immunocompromised.